

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. Currently, claims 57-114 and 116-122 are pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter:

Claims 63, 69, 71, 72, 75-83, 99, 100 and 116 have been indicated as being allowable.

A number of these allowable claims have been amended. For example, claim 75 was amended to even further improve clarity. In particular, it is impossible to have a quadrilateral with two opposing angles at right angles and two other opposing angles not at right angles, if “opposing” means “diagonally opposing.” Accordingly, claim 75 has been amended to require “adjacent.” As a further example, claims 71, 72, 76, 78 and 81 have been amended to require parallel or substantially parallel sides. Despite these amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are still allowable.

Claims 57-62, 64-68, 70, 73, 74, 84-98 and 101-114 now depend from one of these allowable claims. Each of claims 57-62, 64-68, 70, 73, 74, 84-98 and 101-114 are thus allowable at least by virtue of being directly or indirectly dependent from an allowable claim. Claim 115 has been canceled.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103:

Claims 57-62, 64, 66-68, 85-93, 98, 101-107, 109 and 113-115 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Oswald et al

(WO 98/00729, hereinafter "Oswald") in view of Kerry. Claims 65, 70 and 73-74 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 over the three-way combination of Oswald, Kerry and Hane et al. Claims 110-112 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being unpatentable over the three-way combination of Oswald, Kerry and Chen et al. As noted above, each of claims 57-62, 64-68, 70, 73, 74, 84-98 and 101-114 now depends directly or indirectly from an allowable claim.

Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the above rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103 be withdrawn. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 57 is amended merely to expedite prosecution of the present application, and therefore should not be construed as an acceptance of the Office Action's rejection. In particular, Applicant respectfully submits that the above-noted combinations of references fail to disclose, *inter alia*, the common timing signal generator for activating the gate inputs of each detector as required by claim 57.

New Claims:

New claims 117-122 have been added to provide additional protection for the invention. New claims 118-122 are deemed to be allowable at least by virtue of being dependent from an allowable claim. For example, claims 118-119 depend from allowable claim 99 and claims 120, 121 and 122 depend from allowable claims 76, 78 and 80, respectively. New claim 117 requires, *inter alia*, "the transmitting element and receiving elements are disposed within a single housing or on a common substrate and the receiving elements are spaced apart by distances that are the same order of magnitude as the wavelength λ of radiation

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that the apparatus is intended to transmit and receive; and wherein the size of each receiving element is between 10λ and $\lambda/4$ or between 4λ and $\lambda/4$ where λ is the wavelength of radiation that the apparatus is intended to transmit and receive.”

Applicant thus respectfully submits that claim 117 is allowable.

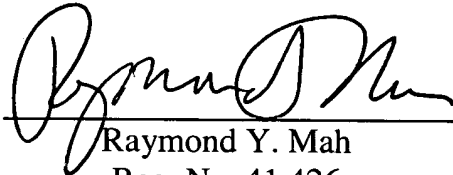
Conclusion:

Applicant believes that this entire application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests a notice to this effect. If the Examiner has any questions or believes that an interview would further prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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